



**APPLICANTS RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION:** (Application No. 10/792,197

(Filing Date: 03/04/2004

(Applicant: Jerry M. Edmondson

(Examiner: Kevin L. Lee

(Art Unit: 3753

Responsive to Office Action dated 09/25/2006 and noted as FINAL please amend the patent application for my invention entitled "Hydrodynamics Control Method and Apparatus" as follows:

Please accept page 6R-B and 6R-C which cancel claims 8 through 11 and add claims 12, 13, 14 15 and 16.

I believe the new claims rectify the errors cited in the examiners communication and more clearly define the invention.

Regarding my invention being anticipated by Buchanan U.S. Patent No. 6,207,032, a careful reading of claim 1 of said patent will discern that the description is "a plurality of pairs" and "an operating element for moving the "plurality of pairs" and that the subsequent description further explains that, while the "bars move adjacent pairs in opposite directions", the preceding description shows that all of the "pairs" of adjustable louvers are connected to two bars that cause the "plurality of pairs" to move at the same time and with the same spacing.

Further the drawing figures show the adjustable louvers, traversing the flow area, to be vertical which precludes the louvers being adjusted differentially in the strata's occupied by each of the oil and water.

My reading of said patent specification finds no teaching of the fact that it may be beneficial to vary the flow areas independently in each of the flow strata's occupied by the oil and water as the description seems to anticipate the fluid, flowing through the adjustable louvers of the Buchanan invention, being a continuous emulsified mass and therefore a necessity for having stratified flow areas discretely adjustable and a mechanism for accomplishment was not recognized, considered or anticipated by Buchanan.

I believe this amendment will overcome the examiners objections and permit the application to be passed for issuance. If however the examiner believes there is a better way to describe and/or teach the invention I will certainly consider an examiners amendment.

Thank you for the considered and thorough examination.

Sincerely,



Jerry M. Edmondson,  
Inventor and Applicant